

REMARKS

In the last Action, restriction was required among five species. The Examiner stated that the five species are patentably distinct from each other, thereby making restriction proper. Applicants were required to elect one of the five species for further prosecution in this application and to list all claims readable on the elected species.

In response to the restriction requirement, applicants have provisionally elected the species of invention designated as Species D shown in Figs. 22-24 and desirably also Figs. 25-31 and list claims 1, 5 and 6 as being readable on the elected species. The non-elected claims have been retained in the application pending possible withdrawal of the restriction requirement or allowance of a generic or sub-generic claim.

Applicants submit that claim 1 is generic to all of the species A-E, and it is applicants' understanding that the restriction requirement will be withdrawn as to claims directed to species readable on an allowed generic or sub-generic claim.

In light of the foregoing, early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

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Name



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MAY 15, 2003

Date